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**Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket No. L-00000F-09-0190-00144
Case #144
Vail to Valencia
Public Comment**

Chairman John Foreman
Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee

Dear Chairman Foreman and Members of the Committee,

As President of the Santa Rita Foothills Community Association I write to you with the following concerns about the proposed Vail Substation siting tentatively to be located west of the unincorporated village of Corona de Tucson where my family and I have made our home for the past 33 years.

I spoke to the Commissioners at the public meeting on August 18th 2008 concerning TEP line site case #137. The areas of concern I addressed at that meeting are of concern now.

- 1.) Lack of public outreach on the part of the utility company; to date there has been no public meeting in Vail or in Corona de Tucson concerning the placement of the proposed line in Case #144.
- 2.) Potential use of the proposed Vail Substation as a gas-fired power plant; it is my understanding that the City of Tucson approved zoning for this purpose.
- 3.) Structure appearance; we request any and all new transmission structures installed next to existing lattice structures be constructed of galvanized steel. Our village nestles in an area of the Sonoran Desert with a unique beauty. Lest the landscape be blighted in virginal areas with a backdrop of the majestic mountains that surround us and the unmarred vision of the vast Arizona sky, we request galvanized steel structures be used as well. These structures weather and will better blend into the environment than any other alternative.

I did not address the possibility of the proposed Vail to Kantor line at the August 18th meeting of the Commission. If site case #144 is granted a certificate of environmental compatibility, it would provide an alternative route for a power source to the proposed Rosemont Mine. The Vail Substation is listed on TEP's transmission line projects under Rosemont Mine as one of the initial locations. The Rosemont Mine is vehemently opposed by the residents of Corona de Tucson and residents of hamlets, villages, ranches and country homes throughout Southern Arizona. The fight is ongoing and will not be easily won by the foreign mining conglomerate proposing an open pit mine that will forever scar our beloved desert.

Corona de Tucson is a growing community with roots sunk deep in our rural desert and a population ready and willing to protect our stark, yet beautiful landscape and the wilderness that surrounds us. We deserve a role in transmission line planning. We request the appointment of an Advisory Council comprised of community, neighborhood and homeowners associations, emergency responders, environmental groups and other interested parties be added to the conditions to the granting of any proposed Certificate of Environmental Compatibility.

Thank you,

Dated this 25th day of May 2009

By: *Sandra M. Whitehouse*

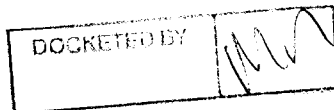
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Pursuant to AAC R14-3-204

Original and 25 copies of the foregoing are filed with
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